

5. Expand and enhance public use of State owned lands and adjacent public spaces within the Capitol Lake region. [For additional information regarding this objective, refer to

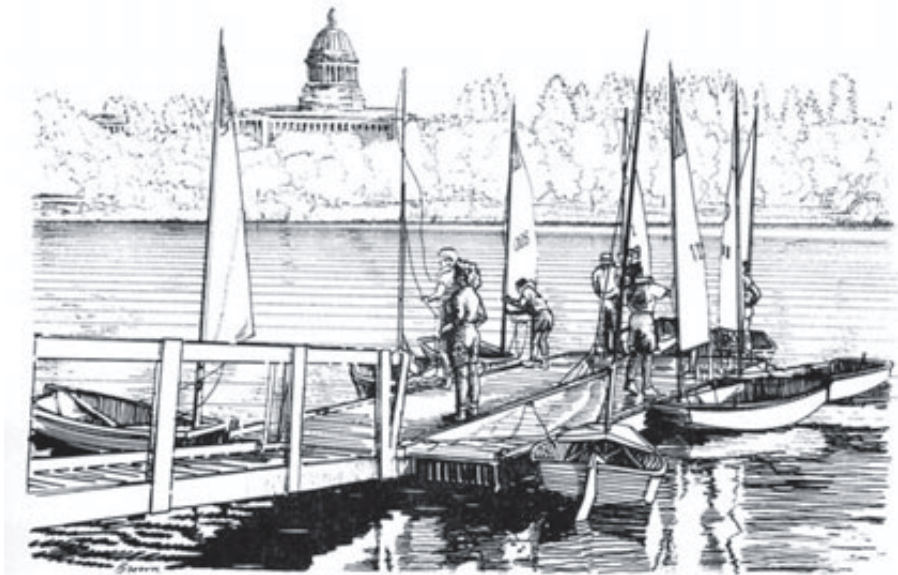
pages 6-1 to 6-11 in the *Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan - 1999 to 2001* (1999).]

BACKGROUND

During 2000, the Department of General Administration solicited the community's assistance to "*Complete The Vision.*" This research explored the desired human uses and activities on state lands within the Capitol Lake Basin. A twenty (20)-person stakeholder committee was formed and several community workshops were held to secure public input. From these efforts the *Use Plan For The Capitol Lake Basin* was prepared. This document provides guidance on preferred uses and activities for various areas of the basin including Heritage Park, Deschutes Parkway, Marathon Park, and the Capitol Lake Interpretive Center.

The plan identified the need for a variety of water recreation opportunities, bicycle and pedestrian pathways, picnic areas, and other recreation opportunities. The development of a swim area in the lake was a frequently mentioned topic. In the mid-1960s, a designated swim area was developed in the lake. However, water quality and clarity issues led to the closure of the area in 1986. Construction work on Heritage Park filled in the former swimming beach, which is now part of the Arc of Statehood.

In February 2002, GA reactivated the Stakeholder Committee with the goal of developing a vision for what the lake would look like 10, 20 and 30 years into the future. The Stakeholder Committee met several times and endorsed a *Public Use Vision Proposal*. This suggested that the management of Capitol Lake and its surrounding public lands was actually like managing a wildlife refuge within an urban area, and required a new stewardship ethic. This proposal incorporated the creation of islands, over-the-water boardwalks, wildlife area, viewing platforms, inter-connected trails, interpretive areas, dam improvements and other public use elements. This proposal was presented to the CLAMP Steering Committee but was not adopted by them.

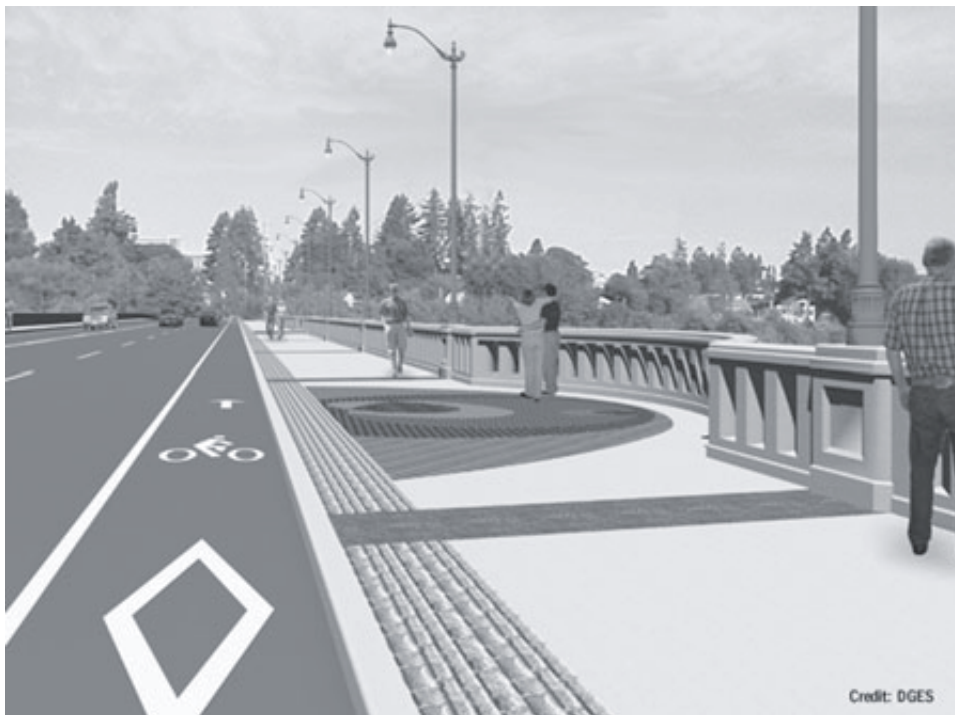


Water recreation is a community interest on Capitol Lake.

All of the lands in the Capitol Lake region were once home to a thriving Native American population. Beneath the soils and shorelines of today's State Capitol Campus and Capitol Lake is the environment known to the Squaxin Island Tribal people. Embedded in the earth are artifacts of their existence. All uses of this land must be mindful of this cultural heritage.

Capitol Lake Region - Downtown Olympia

Not unlike 50 years ago, the completion of Heritage Park, the repairs of Deschutes Parkway, and the renovation of other Capitol Lake public spaces will draw the community's attention to focus onto Capitol Lake. These public investments will likely become the catalyst for redevelopment of other areas adjacent to the lake.



Future view along rebuilt 4th Avenue Bridge ("Gateway Corridor").

The two significant local government projects within the Olympia Downtown are the "Gateway Corridor" and the LOTT Wastewater Alliance sanitary sewer improvements. (See LOTT discussion on page 16.) The Gateway Corridor, commonly referred to as the 4th Avenue Bridge replacement, includes more than just replacing the bridge. The streetscape along 4th Avenue and Olympic Way will be widened and made more pedestrian friendly. Roundabouts and landscape medians will add visual amenities while serving an important traffic safety function.

Mitigation for the bridge will be provided by enhancing the northern shore of the Port Lagoon in lower Budd Inlet. Olympia's streetscape amenities along 4th Avenue will dovetail with the State's upgrade to 5th Avenue, Water Street and 7th Avenue. The completion of the Heritage Park fountain block will help finish off the amenities adjacent to Heritage Park. The completion to the Heritage Park fountain block is currently not in the City of Olympia Capital Facilities Plan.

The reconstruction of Deschutes Parkway and the widening of 5th Avenue will create a pedestrian bottleneck at the Capitol Lake dam. The four foot sidewalk is less than what is required for a major collector. It is likely that increased activity adjacent to the lake will justify the need for a pedestrian bypass of the dam.

Since the mid-1990's Olympia has explored ways of directing future growth to its downtown core. Increasing residential densities downtown is a key means of addressing the Growth Management Act goal to reduce sprawl. The blocks adjacent to Heritage Park are some of the most attractive and most viable for conventionally financed housing to emerge. These fronting blocks lie along 5th Avenue, Water Street and 7th Avenue.



Example of potential residential development within the Gateway Corridor.

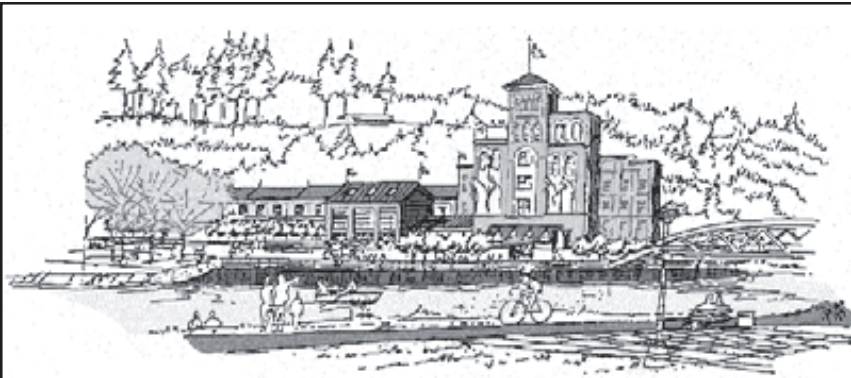
“Living downtown” for most people means leaving traditional single family neighborhoods. This transition is only successful when the urban amenities and attractions meet or exceed those available in the “burbs”. The two key amenities for new downtown housing are the city’s Percival Landing boardwalk and the state’s Heritage Park. Other downtown attractions include easy access to grocery stores, Olympia Farmer’s Market, the fountain block, shopping and entertainment within the downtown core. In fact studies have shown that increasing activity and thoughtful designs of

new developments will add to the security and safety of streets, parks and public spaces.

In 2002 Olympia rezoned some of the blocks adjacent to Heritage Park in order to realize the residential redevelopment envisioned. Future buildings will vary in height from 5 to 6 stories with structured, not surface parking. While it may take 20 years to complete this transformation, the city hopes that new street edges, urban amenities, and new development will encourage people to live, walk, and recreate in the downtown - Olympia’s newest neighborhood.

Capitol Lake Region - New Market Historic District

The City of Tumwater also has plans to renovate areas adjacent to Capitol Lake in the South Basin (south of I-5). These plans are contained within a master plan for the New Market Historic District. Design proposals call for a restored historic Brewhouse to be the focal point of a pedestrian Grand Plaza which includes a new footbridge across the Deschutes River. The Brewery Complex is graphically depicted in the figures on page 25, as seen from Tumwater Historical Park and along the Grand Plaza. Although funds are not yet available, this proposal will anchor the southern end of Capitol Lake to the importance of interconnecting new projects throughout the Capitol Lake region. The design proposal includes a looped pedestrian trail for the South Basin.



View from proposed Waterfront Promenade.



View along potential Grand Plaza.

Future views of the New Market Historic District.

Activities in Years 2003 - 2005:

The City of Olympia will be finishing the Gateway Corridor. General Administration will initiate the design process for the Capitol Lake dam pedestrian bypass.

CLAMP Budget 2003 - 2005:

The cost of Olympia's Gateway Corridor (which includes design and construction) is estimated at \$39,123,000. Funding is being provided by 13 sources with the largest being: Federal Highways, \$18,276,000; a loan from the State Public Works Trust Fund, \$9,996,000; city water, sewer and Capital Facility Plan funds, \$6,546,000; and city impact fees, \$2,580,000. The cost of the design phase for the Capitol Lake dam pedestrian bypass will be \$100,000.

Activities in Years 2005 - 2013:

Construction of the Capitol Lake dam bypass will be in the 2005-2007 biennium.

CLAMP Budget 2005 - 2013:

A preliminary construction estimate for the Capitol Lake dam bypass is \$650,000.